

Domestic Violence Updates

-Social Services Appropriations Committee, January 30, 2020

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate



Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate

The Utah Domestic Violence Coalition is non-government organization representing **a team** of victim service providers working to serve survivors of domestic and sexual violence across Utah.

The focus of our work every day: promote safety in Utah's families and communities

- ▶ Since 2000, 42% of Utah's homicides are domestic violence related.
- ▶ 39% of DV-related homicides include the suicide of the perpetrator.
- ▶ Every year, at least 80 of Utah's children witness their mother's murder or attempted murder by an intimate partner
- ▶ 63% of homeless women and 40% of homeless families in Utah are victims of domestic violence.
- ▶ 70% of IPV homicide victims are killed within the first 72 hours following departure from an abusive partner; 65% of those DV victims had open DCFS cases at the time of their murder; less than 2% had an order of protection.

(Source: Utah Department of Health and the National Violent Death Reporting System)

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate

EACH YEAR, OUR TEAM OF NGO VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS THROUGHOUT UTAH, PROVIDE SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE—

- ▶ **OVER 100,000 nights of emergency shelter**
 - ▶ **Answering over 43,000 crisis calls**
 - ▶ **At least 54,000 hours of child services**
 - ▶ **250,000 hours of case management and advocacy support**
- ▶ **Conduct over 3,000 Lethality Assessments with victims at risk of DV homicide**

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate

SSAC Requested Updates:

- ▶ How are shelters doing overall?
- ▶ Is there sufficient equality of resources across the various shelters?
- ▶ Are shelters taking advantage of new federal funds available from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)?

#1) How are shelters doing overall?

Outcomes and strengths:

- ▶ Lethality Assessment Protocol initiated as a pilot in Utah in 2015, statewide in 2016; funded ongoing in 2019 through the HomeSafe program with SGF.
- ▶ Since implementation in SFY16, over 12,000 survivors have engaged in LAP, need for services for high risk/high needs survivors continues to grow, partnerships with over 70 law enforcement agencies statewide
- ▶ In 2017, Utah's DV Fatality rate dropped two consecutive years in a row

Thank you thank you thank you thank you . . .



How are shelters doing overall?
With expanded partnership and resources,
we are seeing invaluable change

- ▶ Utah's DV Fatality rate dropped from 2017-18,
and it dropped again in 2019
 - ▶ 44 DV deaths in 2017
 - ▶ 36 DV deaths in 2018
 - ▶ 30 DV deaths in 2019

(Source: UDVC Fatality Reviews, including homicides, suicides and officer involved deaths related to domestic violence in Utah)

How are shelters doing overall?

Limitations and Challenges:

- ▶ Small team of 14 private, community-based victim service programs statewide serving 29 counties; nearly always at capacity with the high risk/need victims
- ▶ High degree of administrative burden due to lack of coordination of federal pass thru funding
- ▶ Need for expanded coordination with tribal communities
- ▶ Proposed solution: Improve the coordination of funding and contracting processes

#2) Is there sufficient equality of resources across the various shelters?

In addition to SGF and private funding, the following federal funding is currently supporting shelter-based UDVC member programs:

Funding	Title	Original Funding Source	Administered in Utah by:
VAWA	Violence Against Women Act Funding	Departments of Justice (DOJ) and Health and Human Services (HHS)	Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice-Utah Office for Victims of Crime; competitive grants
VOCA	Victims of Crime Act	Departments of Justice (DOJ)	Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice-Utah Office for Victims of Crime; competitive grants
FVPSA	Family Violence Prevention and Services Act	Health and Human Services (HHS)	Department of Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services; funding formula
SASP	Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant	Departments of Justice (DOJ) and the Office for Violence Against Women (OVW)	Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice-Utah Office for Victims of Crime; competitive grants
RPEG	Rape Prevention Education Grant	Center for Disease Control	Department of Health, Violence and Injury Prevention Program; competitive grants
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Family Assistance	Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Development Division; TBD
SSBG	Social Services Block Grant	Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Community Services	Department of Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services; funding formula

Congressional intent of the VAWA/VOCA and FVPSA funding

VAWA, FVPSA, and VOCA funding support:

- domestic violence shelters,
- law enforcement,
- courts,
- rape crisis centers,
- children's services,
- prevention,
- community outreach,
- and other state and local programs that provide services for victims and families."

(Source: National Network to End Domestic Violence)

Is there sufficient equality of resources across the various shelters?

Outcomes and strengths:

- ▶ Statistics show a significant decline in domestic violence since VAWA was first enacted in 1994
- ▶ In addition to saving lives, VAWA, FVPSA, and VOCA save money by reducing future violence and other related social costs
- ▶ Congress considers funding for VAWA, FVPSA, and VOCA each year when they "appropriate" dollars to these programs in the Congressional Budget; VOCA significantly expanded in 2017
- ▶ NNEDV co-chairs the Campaign for Funding to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, an alliance of over 30 national organizations advocating for funding for VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA, strong partnerships locally and nationally to advocate for core funding

Is there sufficient equality of resources across the various shelters?

Limitations and Challenges:

- ▶ Small team of 14 private, community-based victim service programs statewide serving 29 counties; nearly always at capacity with the high risk/need victims
 - ▶ Smaller organizations, rural programs serve large geographic regions and often lack administrative resources to pursue competitive grants
 - ▶ Network of shelter-based programs competing for numerous funding options, shelter budgets constantly in flux; difficulty leveraging private funding
 - ▶ Numerous federal pass thru agencies=numerous contracts, monitoring, licensing, training requirements and duplication of efforts
 - ▶ Proposed solution: Improve the coordination of funding and contracting processes

#3) Are shelters taking advantage of new federal funds available from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)?

Outcomes and strengths:

- ▶ VOCA funds are derived entirely from fines and penalties paid by offenders at the federal level, *not taxpayer revenue*, and is largely distributed to the states through a formula grant. The VOCA funds awarded to states are intended for both crime victim compensation funds and victim assistance grants.
- ▶ Since 2017, significantly expanded award on formula from the Office of Justice Programs to Utah (CCJJ/UOVC); 2019 allocation reported at \$21,771,193
- ▶ Additional discretionary grant funding, expanded victim services statewide

Are shelters taking advantage of new federal funds available from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)?

Limitations and Challenges:

- ▶ Additional funding is entirely competitive granting
 - ▶ Smaller organizations, rural programs serve large geographic regions and often lack administrative resources to pursue competitive grants
 - ▶ Network of shelter-based programs competing for numerous funding options, shelter budgets constantly in flux; difficulty leveraging private funding
 - ▶ Numerous contracts, budgets+high administrative burden and costs, detracting from resources for the direct service of survivors
 - ▶ Proposed solution: Improve the coordination of funding and contracting processes with a statutory funding formula for a small percentage of VOCA pass thru funding, to be coordinated with FVPSA and SGF

Recommendations/Next Steps:

- ▶ Act on the SSAC workgroup study requested in 2017 to coordinate funding
- ▶ Support a statutory funding formula for a small percentage of VOCA pass thru funding, to be coordinated with FVPSA and SGF on existing sole source contracts with DHS/DCFS

Thank you

Jenn Oxborrow, Executive Director UDVC

8012324441

joxborrow@udvc.org